

ABSTRACT

Assignment of a session information IP address for use as a mobile station identifier facilitates a distributed architecture for processing IP communications in coordination with a wireless communication system. The session information IP address identifies a storage location of session information for a given AT. The AT effectively carries a pointer to the session information, wherein an access point is able to access the session information directly. This avoids the need to store mapping information for each AT and associated location of session information. Additionally, use of an IP address identifying the session holder as a mobile station identifier avoid delays incurred by such mapping. The session information IP address may be compressed to use a locally unique value. The compressed version conserves bit space, and reduces processing complexity on relocation to a next access point.